

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 2

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (previously presented): A partition including first and second partition frames and a raceway arrangement for routing utility lines in a vertically spaced relationship above an upper edge of the partition, said raceway arrangement comprising:

an elevated raceway defining an elongated passageway configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner;

a first support member extending downwardly from said elevated raceway and having a first connector spaced apart from said elevated raceway a first vertical distance, said first connector attached to said first partition frame proximate a first portion of the upper edge having a first height;

a second support member extending downwardly from said raceway and having a second connector spaced apart from said raceway a second vertical distance that is different from said first vertical distance said second connector attached to said second partition frame proximate a second portion of the upper edge having a second height that is different from said first height, such that said raceway is supported at a generally uniform vertical height spaced above said upper edge of said partition having portions with different heights.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 1, wherein:  
said raceway has an upwardly opening U-shape to permit lay-in of utility lines.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 1, wherein:  
said raceway includes a U-shaped channel and a flexible flap closing off said U-shaped channel.

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 3

Claim 4 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said raceway includes a U-shaped channel and a pair of flexible flaps cantilevered towards one another and closing off said U-shaped channel.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said raceway includes a first section having a pair of support members, each having a connector spaced apart from said raceway at said first distance; and

said raceway including a second section having a pair of support members, each having a connector spaced apart from said raceway at said second distance.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said raceway includes a pair of downwardly opening grooves extending along a lower side of said raceway, said first and second support members including a pair of extensions received in said grooves.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A partition system, comprising:

[[a]] at least two side-by-side partition frames, each partition frame having a horizontally extending upper frame member defining an upper edge of each said partition frame, each said partition frame further including a pair of horizontally spaced apart vertical frame members, [[each]] said vertical frame members having [[an]] upper ~~ends~~ thereof secured to said upper frame ~~member members~~, each said partition frame having a lower portion configured to abuttingly support each said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface;

[[a]] at least two horizontally extending ~~raceway~~ raceways, each defining an elongated passageway extending between opposite ends of the raceway, the elongated passageways configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner, [[the]] each raceway having an elongated upper opening along a top side of the raceway providing access to the elongated passageway and permitting lay-in of utility lines into the passageway, wherein the elongated passageways of the raceways are aligned with one another and form a substantially

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 4

continuous unobstructed horizontal passageway above and between the partition frames permitting utility lines to extend substantially uninterrupted horizontally along and between the partition frames; and

[[a]] at least two vertically extending support member members, each including a connector connected to said partition frame, said support member supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper frame member.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The partition system set forth in claim 7, ~~wherein:~~

~~—said vertically extending support member comprises a first support member; and~~  
including:

a second third and fourth vertically extending support member members connected to said partition frame system and supporting said raceway raceways vertically spaced above said upper frame member members.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The partition system set forth in claim 8, wherein:

said raceway includes raceways include opposite side walls and a bottom wall defining a U-shaped cross section, and wherein the side walls are integrally formed with the bottom wall.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~The partition set forth in claim 8, wherein:~~ A partition, comprising:

a partition frame having a horizontally extending upper frame member defining an upper edge of said partition frame, said partition frame further including a pair of horizontally spaced apart vertical frame members, each having an upper end thereof secured to said upper frame member, said partition frame having a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface;

a horizontally extending raceway defining an elongated passageway configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner, the raceway having an elongated upper

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 5

opening along a top side of the raceway providing access to the elongated passageway and permitting lay-in of utility lines into the passageway;

a first vertically extending support member including a connector connected to said partition frame, a second vertically extending support member connected to said partition frame, said first and second support members supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper frame member; and wherein said raceway has a cross section including a U-shaped portion and a pair of flexible flaps extending over and substantially closing off said U-shaped portion.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A partition, comprising:

a partition frame having a horizontally extending upper frame member defining an upper edge of said partition frame, said partition frame further including a pair of horizontally spaced apart vertical frame members, each having an upper end thereof secured to said upper frame member, said partition frame having a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface;

a horizontally extending raceway defining an elongated passageway configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner;

vertically extending first and second support members, each including a connector connected to said partition frame, said first and second support members supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper frame member;

said first and second vertically extending support members each including a vertically elongated opening therethrough; and

a sheet extending vertically above said upper frame member, said sheet disposed within said vertically elongated openings of said vertically extending first and second members.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A partition, comprising:

a partition frame having a horizontally extending upper frame member defining an upper edge of said partition frame, said partition frame further including a pair of horizontally spaced apart vertical frame members, each having an upper end thereof secured to said upper

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 6

frame member, said partition frame having a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface;

a horizontally extending raceway defining an elongated passageway configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner, said raceway including a pair of grooves extending along a lower side thereof;

first and second vertically extending support members, each including a connector connected to said partition frame, said first and second support members, each supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper frame member said first and second vertically extending support members including a pair of extensions received in said grooves.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A freestanding partition system, comprising:

a first partition frame having a first side edge and including a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said first partition frame freestanding on a floor surface, said first partition frame having a horizontal upper edge;

a second partition frame having a second side edge connected to said first side edge and a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said second partition frame freestanding on a floor surface, said second partition frame having a horizontal upper edge;

said first and second partition frames having different heights such that said upper edges are positioned at different elevations when said first and second partition frames are positioned at substantially the same height on a generally flat floor surface; and

an elongated horizontal elevated raceway configured to support horizontally extending utility lines at a generally uniform elevation, said raceway including a support member connected to said a selected one of said first and second partition frames and supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper edges of said first and second partition frames at a generally uniform elevation when said first and second partition frames are positioned on a generally flat floor surface.

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 7

Claim 14 (original): The partition set forth in claim 13, wherein:

said raceway is generally parallel to said horizontal upper edges of said first and second partition frames.

Claim 15 (original): The partition set forth in claim 14, wherein:

said raceway has a cross sectional shape with a U-shaped portion to permit lay-in of utility lines.

Claim 16 (original): The partition set forth in claim 15, wherein:

said raceway includes a pair of generally horizontal flexible flaps closing off said U-shaped portion.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A partition system, comprising:

a first partition frame having a first side edge and including a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said first partition frame section freestanding on a floor surface, said first partition frame having a horizontal upper edge;

a second partition frame having a second side edge connected to said first side edge and a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said second partition frame freestanding on a floor surface, said second partition frame having a horizontal upper edge;

said first and second partition frames having different heights such that said upper edges are positioned at different elevations when said first and second partition frames are positioned on a floor surface;

an elongated horizontal elevated raceway configured to support horizontally extending utility lines, said raceway including a support member connected to said a selected one of said first and second partition frames and supporting said raceway vertically spaced above said upper edges of said first and second partition frames;

said first and second partition frames each include side edges defining first and second panel widths, said raceway including a first section having a length that is less than said first panel width, said raceway further including a second section having a length that is less than

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 8

said second panel width such that said first and second sections of said raceway are spaced apart to form a gap therebetween.

Claim 18 (original): The partition set forth in claim 17, wherein:

said first and second partition frames are connected together at an angle to form an L-shape in plan view.

Claim 19 (original): The partition set forth in claim 13, wherein:

said first and second partition frames each include a horizontal row of openings adjacent said upper edges;

said support member including an extension engaging at least a selected one of said openings to connect said support member to a selected one of said first and second partition frames.

Claim 20 (original): The partition set forth in claim 13, including:

a vertical utility conduit connected to said raceway and extending downwardly therefrom to a level below at least a selected one of said horizontal upper edges.

Claim 21 (original): The partition set forth in claim 20, including:

a plurality of L-shaped clips to retain utility lines, each clip connected to said utility conduit and extending therefrom in a cantilevered manner.

Claim 22 (original): The partition set forth in claim 21, wherein:

said vertical utility conduit includes a receptacle at a lower end thereof.

Claim 23 (original): The partition set forth in claim 20, wherein:

said raceway includes at least one groove on a lower side thereof;

said utility conduit having an extension received in said groove.

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 9

Claim 24 (original): The partition set forth in claim 20, wherein:

said utility conduit includes spaced side edges; and including:

a clip having L-shape and a pair of opposed grooves that receive said side edges to retain said clip on said utility conduit and retain utility lines along said utility conduit.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A partition frame, comprising:

a vertical frame member having opposite side faces, each side face including a vertical row of openings; and

a clip for routing and retaining utility lines along said vertical frame member, said clip including a pair of extensions that are joined together at base end portions of said extensions, said extensions extending away from said base end portions in a cantilevered manner, said extensions defining free end portions opposite said base end portions, said free end portions inwardly towards one another and received within into selected ones of said openings on said opposite side faces, [[and]] said clip further including a pair of flexible legs that are joined together at base end portions of said flexible legs, wherein said base end portions of said flexible legs are joined to said base end portions of said extensions, the flexible legs extending away from the extensions said base end portions of said flexible legs in a cantilevered manner and defining a space therebetween, the legs having free end portions positioned adjacent one another whereby the legs can be flexed apart to form an enlarged gap between the free end portions of the flexible legs for insertion of utility lines into the space.

Claim 26 (original): The partition frame set forth in claim 25, wherein:

said partition frame defines vertical side faces, said vertical rows of openings opening outwardly.

Claim 27 (original): A partition panel, comprising:

a generally rectangular partition frame having base configured to support said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface, said partition frame having a horizontal upper edge;



Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 10

a pair of vertical extension members, each having a vertically elongated opening therethrough; and

a sheet extending upwardly above said upper edge and disposed within said vertically elongated openings to retain said sheet in a vertically extending configuration.

Claim 28 (original): The partition panel set forth in claim 27, including:

a horizontally extending raceway configured to support and route utility lines, said raceway secured to said vertical extension members above said sheet.

Claim 29 (original): The partition panel set forth in claim 28, wherein:

said partition frame includes a horizontal row of openings adjacent said horizontal upper edge; and

said vertical extension members engaging selected ones of said openings to mount said extension members to said partition frame.

Claim 30 (original): The partition panel set forth in claim 28, wherein:

said raceway has a U-shaped cross section to permit lay-in of utility lines.

Claim 31 (original): The partition panel set forth in claim 28, wherein:

said raceway has a cross-sectional shape including a U-shaped portion, and a pair of flexible flaps extending over and generally closing off said U-shaped portion.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A freestanding partition, comprising:

a partition frame having a horizontally extending upper frame member defining an upper edge of said partition frame, said partition frame further including a pair of horizontally spaced apart vertical frame members, each having an upper end thereof secured to said upper frame member, said partition frame having a lower portion configured to abuttingly support said partition frame freestanding on a floor surface;

Applicants : Jonathan J. King et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/692,663  
Page : 11

a horizontally extending raceway defining an elongated passageway configured to retain utility lines in a horizontally extending manner, the raceway having an elongated upper opening along a top side of the raceway providing access to the elongated passageway and permitting lay-in of utility lines into the passageway; and

a vertically extending support member connected to said horizontally extending upper frame member of said partition frame and supporting said raceway on said upper frame member vertically spaced above said upper frame member.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The partition set forth in claim 32, wherein:

said vertically extending support member is horizontally spaced from said vertical frame members.